

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1–14 are pending in the above-captioned application, and all of these claims stand rejected. Two timely filed terminal disclaimers accompany this response. No amendments have been made to the claims.

I. Claim rejections on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting

1. Claims 1–14 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 11, 23–27, 30, 46, 47, 63–70, and 73–80 of U.S. Patent No. 6,756,019.

2. Claims 1–14 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1–11, 19, 20, 23–25, 33–40, and 43 of U.S. Patent No. 6,251,343.

Two timely filed terminal disclaimers in compliance with 37 CFR 3.73(b) accompany this Office action response. As indicated in the disclaimers, U.S. Patent Nos. 6,756,019 and 6,251,343 are commonly owned with this application. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the terminal disclaimers that accompany this paper.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe all the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite the examination of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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